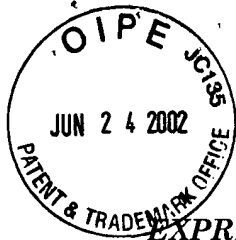


06-26-02

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PATENT #5A



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Applicant : Brigitte Chau Phan, et al.
Application No. : 10/086,941
Filed : February 26, 2002

TECH CENTER 1600/2900

Title : METHODS FOR DNA CONJUGATION ONTO SOLID
PHASE INCLUDING RELATED OPTICAL BIODISCS
AND DISC DRIVE SYSTEMS

Grp./Div. : 1645
Examiner : Not yet assigned

Docket No. : BTI2 00103502(USP2)USP7X1

PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

Commissioner for Patents
Washington, D.C. 20231

Post Office Box 7068
Pasadena, CA 91109-7068
June 24, 2002

Commissioner:

Prior to examination of the above-referenced patent application, please amend the application as follows:

In the Specification:

On Page 1, under "Cross-Reference To Related Applications", after line 10 and before the second paragraph, please add the following new paragraph:

a1 This application additionally claims the benefit of priority from U.S. Application
Serial No. 09/997,741 filed November 27, 2001.

Please replace the paragraph beginning on Page 64, line 27 through Page 64, line 30 with the following new paragraph:

a2 The results of the experiment are presented in Figs. 40A and 40B. As indicated, 87% of the probes that bound to the 1-2 μ m magnetic beads from Polysciences were non-covalently bound, as compared to 15% of non-covalently bound probes on the 3 μ m Spherotech beads.

REMARKS

The specification has been amended to add an additional priority claim, which was inadvertently omitted when the application was filed, and to correct minor typographical errors. No new matter was added, nor was the earliest date of priority changed.

Attached hereto is a marked-up version of the changes made to the specification and claims by the current amendment. The attached page is captioned "Version with markings to show changes made."

Respectfully submitted,

CHRISTIE, PARKER & HALE, LLP

By Cynthia A. Bonner
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626/795-9900

CAB/lb
Attachment